

THE KING AND QUEEN
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Devadatta

The state is shouting its
own news
loud enough to reach the
Queen's ears.
It has come to that pass,
when it
takes no heed lest your rest be
broken.
Do not be afraid of me, King.
I have
come to ask my Brahmin's
dues from
the Queen. For my wife is
out of
humour, her larder is empty,
and in
the house there are a number
of empty
stomachs. [He
goes.

Vikram

I wish all happiness to my
people.
Why should there be suffering
and
injustice ? Why should the
strong
cast his vulture's eyes
upon the
poor man's comforts, pitifully
small ?
(Enters MINISTER.) Banish all
the
foreign robbers from my
kingdom
this moment. I must not
hear the
cry of the oppressed for a day
longer.